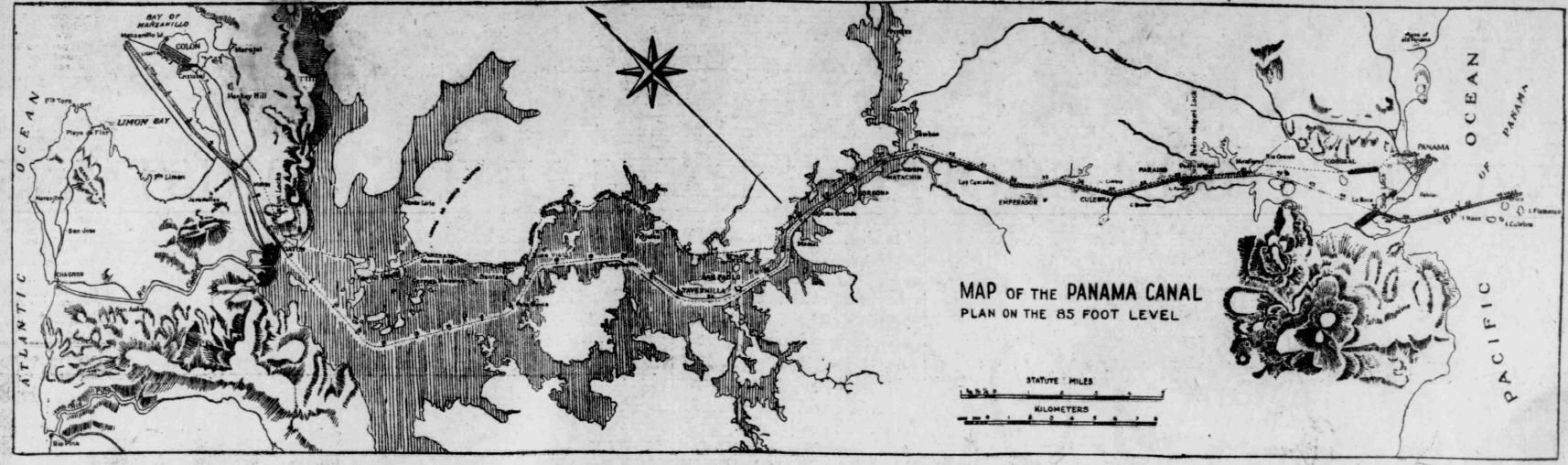
THE NATION'S WORK

The PANAMA CANAL



We are fast approaching the point where the Panama canal enterprise will emerge from the preliminary stage of preparation and enter upon the final stage of construction. It has been decided to complete the work by contract, and the commission has invited bids of the commission has invited bids o and the commission has invited bids done at a cost of \$253,000,000. No doubt certain time limits, and a correspondunder conditions that throw the com- our calculations will prove to be more ing forfeiture will be exacted for expetition open to the world, and, as far reliable than those of the French, but ceeding them.

thing more than a fair approximation af either the whole or any part of the cost of either work. Moreover, it is always understood that such estimates

the greater part of the operation. There was, however, the difficulty—inherent in so vast an undertaking—of devising a basis of agreement which should be fair alike to each party.

It is not to be supposed that the engineers who drew the plans which are gineers who drew the plans which are the followed pretended to offer any official or employe of the contractors are permitted to in- of the valleys of the Chagres and Rio of the contractors are permitted to in- of the valleys of the Chagres and Rio of the valleys of the contractors are permitted to in- of the valleys of the contractors are permitted to in- of the valleys of the contractors are permitted to in- of the valleys of the contractors are permitted to in- of the valleys of the contractors are permitted to in- of the valleys of the Chagres and Rio of the difficulty—inherent ferably, one contract—will be made for the contractors are permitted to in- of the valleys of the Chagres and Rio of the valleys of the contractors are permitted to in- of the valleys of the Chagres and the best bids will be conditioned and the best bids will be conditioned and the condition of the canal zone in the name of the conditioned and the condition of the canal zone of the conditioned and the condition

ently, than ever it has been.

admitted—and the point will probably Another serious difficulty is to be anas may be eliminate the risk of graft. The administration frankly admits its

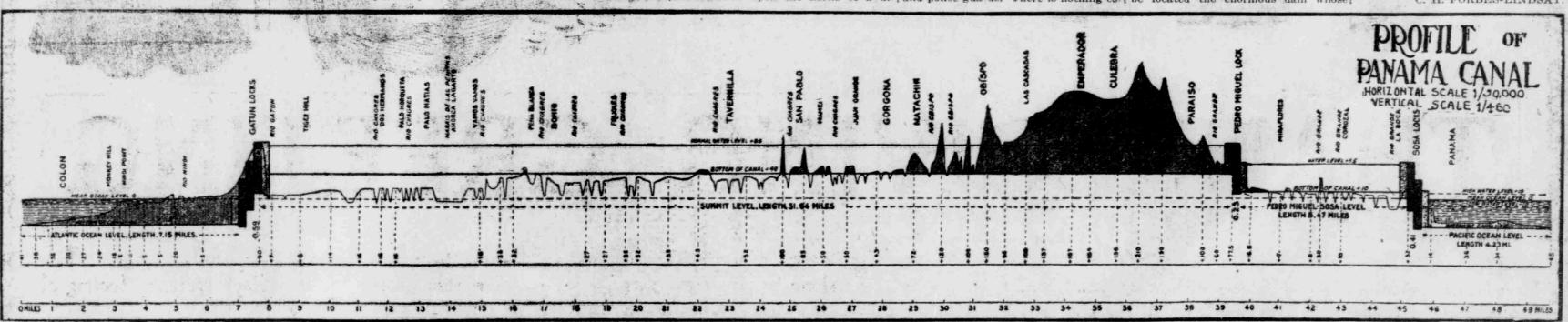
The plan which has been many through the engineers adopted for the construction of the capture will be prevented only by the form Panama—their employment is by no means certain to afford the expected trader by instinct. Give the common the minority report of the board of locks will give upon Lake Sosa, at an expected to the common the minority report of the board of locks will give upon Lake Sosa, at an expected to the common the minority report of the board of locks will give upon Lake Sosa, at an expected to the common the minority report of the board of locks will give upon Lake Sosa, at an expected to the common the property of the common than those of the point with these feathers and the plant with the point with these feathers and the property of the common than those of the point with these feathers and the property of the common than those of the point with the property of the common than those of the point with the ending the property of the common than those of the point with these feathers and the property of the common than the property of the common than those of the property of the common than those of the common than those of the property of the common than those of the common than the property of the common The administration frankly admits its inability to construct the canal aspeedily or economically as it can be speedily or economically as it can be done by corporations having plant, or ganization and experience, for the first shief engineer of the first shief engineer of the consultation with the leading termined that it should be applied to the greater part of the operation. There the greater part of the operation. There was, however, the difficulty—inherent of the first large engineer as the first large engineer of the common coole a few hundred dollars and you the strength of the common coole a few hundred dollars and you the international consulting engineers, the international coole a few hundred dollars and you the international plant. Give the common coole a few hundred dollars and you the isthmus, and with highly disconstitute the international plant. The international plant of fifty-five feet above sea consulting engineers, the international the isthmus at the international plant of fifty-five feet above sea consulting engineers, the international plant of fifty-five feet above sea consulting engineers, the international plant of the staked figs of the isthmus, and with highly disconstitute the international plant of the stated figs of the international plant of the stated figs of the international plant of the part of the part of the operation. There are consultation with the leading of the stated figs of the international plant of the stated figs of the international plant of the maintenance in the international plant of the stated figs of the international plant of the stated figs of the international plant of the stated figs of the stated figs of the international plant of the railroad committee and the stated figs of the stated figs of the international plant of the railroad committee and the stated figs of th

the drug to men in the employ of the ably see a large part of the work per- Gatum. From this point the summit Even though Chinese are ultimately government.

formed by Chinese labor.

may be widely deflected from the mark by any one of a hundred possible conthy any one of a hun

level will extend twenty-three miles



"PIGS IS PIGS." Continued from Page 8.

numbered, O. K.'d and started through the regular channels. Duplicate copies laughed. He read it again and became t the bill of lading, manifest, Flannery's receipt for the package and sevthe head of the tariff department.

The head of the tariff department put his feet on his desk and yawned. He guinea pigs, File No. A6,754. Rule 83, the papers with me.' ooked through the papers carelessly.

refused domestic pet rates.' Miss Kane made a series of curves and angles on her note book and waited morning and when he read it he where no white man had ever pene with pencil poised. The head of the grinned. lepartment looked at the papers again. "Huh! Guinea pigs!" he said. "Prob-

own desk and went out to lunch.

ter he scratched his head. "Give prisint condition," he repeated Mr. Morehouse's door, Mr. Morehouse thoughtfully. "Now. what do thim answered the bell. clerks be wantin' to know, I wonder! Prisint condition' is ut? praise St. Patrick, do be in good health, your senses at last, have you? I thought nagerie, answer quick. so far as I know, but I niver was no you would! Bring the box in." veterinary surgeon to dago pigs. Mebby thim clerks wants me to call in the ly. pig docther an' have their pulses took. Morehouse for two dollars and twinty Wan thing I do know, howiver, which foive cents for keologies aten by his is they've glorious appytites for pigs of dago pigs. Wud you wish to pay ut?" their soize. Ate? They'd ate the brass padlocks off of a barn door! If the Morehouse. "Do you mean to say that settlement of a dispute regarding rates, were eight more added to his drove, paddy pig, by the same token, ate as two little guinea pigs-" hearty as these dago pigs do, there'd

To assure himself that his report the rear of the office and looked into the looked at the door reproachfully. age. The pigs had been transferred to larger box-a dry goods box.

"Wan-two-t'ree-four -foive-six- I know signs of refusal the con-sign-y sivin-eight!" he counted. "Sivin spot- refuses to pay for wan dang kebbage ed an' wan all black. All well an' leaf an' be hanged to me!" hearty an' all eatin' loike ragin' hippypotty-musses." He went back to his

ment" he wrote. "Why do I say dago were pigs or not pigs. The president pigs is pigs because they is pigs and was inclined to treat the matter lightly. will be till you say they ain't which is what the rule book says stop your jol- pets?" he asked. lying me you know it as well as I do. As to health they are all well and hop- said Morgan. ing you are the same. P. S. There are eight now the family increased all good eaters. P. S. I paid out so far two Tes," agreed Morgan, "I look at it from Professor Gordon. It was a long wacant eyes. The windows were bare guinea pig episode.

dollars for cabbage which they like shall I put in bill for same what?" Morgan, head of the Tariff Depart-

serious.

"By George!" he said. "Flannery General Instruction to Agents, clearly states that agents shall collect from desk and wrote a letter to Professor rapher, "take this letter. 'Agent, West- consignee all costs of provender, etc., Gordon. Unfortunately, the professor up, and after the usual delay wrote otta, N. J. Please advise why consign- required for live stock while in transit was in South America collecting zooment referred to in attached papers was or storage. You will proceed to collect logical specimens, and the letter was guinea pigs, the property of consignee, unknown what shall I do? Flannery." an' cows is pets—an' horses is pets—an' same from consignee.

"How thim clerks do loike to be talkably starved to death by this time! Add in'! Me proceed to collect two dollars Morehouse forgot them, but Flannery this to that letter: 'Give condition of and twinty-foive cints off Misther More-I wonder do thim clerks know He tossed the papers on to the ste- Misther Morehouse? I'll git it. Oh, yes! nographer's desk, took his feet from his 'Misther Morehouse, two an' a quarter, plaze.' 'Cert'nly, my dear fri'nd Flan-When Mike Flannery received the let- nery. De-lighted!' Not!' Flannery drove the express wagon to

Thim pigs, it was Flannery.

"I hev no box," said Flannery; "I hey a bill agin Misther John C.

"Pay- Cabbages-!" grasped Mr.

"Eight!" said Flannery. mama an' the six childer. Eight!" For answer Mr. Morehouse slammed would be up to date. Flannery went to the door in Flannery's face. Flannery "I take ut the con-sign'y don't want to pay for thim kebbages," he said. "If

Mr. Morgan, the head of the tariff department, consulted the president of the interurban Express company re-"Mr. Morgan, Head of Tariff Depart- garding guinea pigs, as to whether they

> "What is the rate on pigs and on "Pigs thirty cents, pets twenty-five,

ment, when he received this letter, pigs pigs? Aren't they rabbits?" "Come to think of it," said the presi-

dent, "I believe they are more like rab- multiplied rapidly. bits. Sort of half-way station between other pertinent papers were pinned right. 'Pigs is pigs.' I'll have to get pig and rabbit. I think the question is dent, decidedly, to Morgan. "The twento the letter, and they were passed to authority on this thing. Meanwhile, this-are guinea pigs of the domestic ty-five cent rate applies. Miss Kane, take this letter: 'Agent, pig family? I'll ask Professor Gordon. Westcote, N. J. Regarding shipment He is authority on such things. Leave

The president put the papers on his forwarded to him by his wife. As the Flannery received this letter next professor was in the highest Andes, trated, the letter was many months in reaching him. The president forgot the guinea pigs. Morgan forgot thém, Mr. did not. One-half of his time he gave to the duties of his agency; the other half was devoted to the guinea pigs. Long before Professor Gordon received the president's letter Morgan received one from Flannery .. 4

"About them dago pigs." it said, what shall I do they are great in famity life, no race suicide for them, there "Ah, ha!" he cried, as soon as he saw are thirty-two now shall I sell them do "So you've come to you-take this express office for a me- and sixty instead of eight hundred, and

> Morgan reached for a telegraph blank ing of the "cabbages. "Agent, Westcote. Don't sell pigs. He then wrote Flannery a letter call-ing attention to the fact that the pigs had all the rest of the room and two boys were employed constantly at-were not the property of the company, tending to them. The day after Flanbut were merely being held during a nery had counted the guinea pigs there

possible care of them. home for them, and went about his guinea pigs to care for. More arriving business. He worked with feverish in- daily. tensity when out on his rounds, for the pigs required attention and took most desperation, he seized a sheet of paper and wrote "160" across it and mailed they telegraphed: it to Morgan. Morgan returned it asking for explanation. Flannery replied: "There be now one hundred sixty of them dago pigs, for heaven's sake let me sell off some, do you want me to go

crazy, what." "Sell no pigs." Morgan wired Not long after this the president of house home. At the gate he stopped guinea pigs into bushel baskets with a the express company received a letter suddenly. The house stared at him with coal scoop. He was winding up the

that way, too. A thing that can come and scholarly letter, but the point was of curtains and he could see into the under two rates is naturally due to be that the guinea pig was the Cavia apa- empty rooms. A sign on the porch said, classed as the higher. But are guinea roea, while the common pig was the

Morgan made the proper notation on cote. Flannery returned to the ex-

A6,754, and turned them over to the

ment took some time to look the matter a telegram to the audit department. Flannery that as he had on hand 160 he should deliver them and collect charges at the rate of 25 cents each. Flannery spent a day herding his as he read it he laughed. charges through a narrow opening in their cage so that he might count them. to know that the thing to do is to re-"Audit Dept.," he wrote, when he had finished the count, "you are way off there may be was one hundred and sixty dago pigs once, but wake up don't be a back number. I've got even eight hundred, now shall I collect for eight hundred or what, how about sixty-four

lollars I paid out for cabbages.' It required a great many letters back and forth before the audit department was able to understand why the error had-been made of billing one hundred still more time for it to get the mean-

Flannery was crowded into a few feet at the extreme front of the office. The He advised Flannery to take the best and by the time the audit department gave him authority to collect for eight Flannery, letter in hand, looked at the hundred Flannery had given up all atpigs and sighed. The dry goods box tempt to attend to the receipt or the cage had become too small. He board- delivery of goods. He was hastily ed up twenty feet of the rear of the building galleries around the express express office to make a large and airy office, tier above tier. He had 4,064

> Immediately following its authorizaopen it. They wrote another, and then

"Error in guinea pig bill. Collect for

"To Let." Mr. Morehouse had moved! roea, while the common pig was the "To Let." Mr. Morehouse had moved! "Wan wagonload more an' I'll be quit "I suppose," said the lady who was genius Sus of the family Suidae. He Flannery ran all the way back to the of thim, an' niver will yet catch Flanhanding out the pie, "that you are in fa remarked that they were prolific and express office. Sixty-nine guinea pigs nery wid no more foreign pigs on his multiplied rapidly. had been born during his absence. He hands. No, sur! They near was the "They are not pigs," said the presi- ran out again and made feverish inquir- death o' me. Nixt toime I'll know that

dred and six guinea pigs had entered audit department. The audit depart- the world since he left it. He wrote fool Mike Flannery twice wid the same "Can't collect fifty cents for two dago dang the rules! So long as Flannery pigs consignee has left town address runs this expriss office-pigs is pets-

The telegram was handed to one of "Flannery must be crazy. He ought

turn the consignment here," said the clerk. He telegraphed Flannery to send the pigs to the main office of the company at Franklin. When Flannery received the telegram he set to work. The six boys he had engaged to help him also set to

work. They worked with the haste of desperate men, making cages out of soap boxes, cracker boxes and all kinds of boxes, and as fast as the cages were completed they filled them with guinea pigs and expressed them to Franklin. Day after day the cages of guinea pigs flowed in a steady stream from Westcote to Frankiin, and still Flannery shipped two hundred and eighty cases of guinea pigs, and there were in the express office seven hundred and four more pigs than when they began packing them.

"Stop sending pigs. Warehouse full," came a telegram to Flannery. He stopped packing only long enough to wire back, "Can't stop," and kept on sending them. On the next train up from Franklin came one of the company's inspectors. He had instructions tion the audit department sent another to stop the stream of guinea pigs at all of his time. Some months later, in letter, but Flannery was too busy to hazards. As his train drew up at Westcote station he saw a cattle car standing on the express company's siding. When he reached the express office he two guinea pigs, fifty cents. Deliver all saw the express wagon backed up to the door. Six boys were carrying bush-Flannery read the telegram and el baskets full of guihea pigs from the cheered up. He wrote out a bill as rap- office and dumping them into the wagidly as his pencil could travel over pa- on. Inside the room Flannery, with his per and ran all the way to the More- coat and vest off, was shoveling the

He looked up at the inspector with

"Wan wagonload more an' I'll be quit not only moved, but he had left West- pets-an' go at the lowest rate.

He began shoveling again rapidly, the papers that had accumulated in File press office and found that two hun-speaking quickly between breaths. "Rules may be rules, but you can' thrick-whin ut comes to live stock lions an' tigers an' Rocky mountain the elerks in the audit department, and goats is pets-an' the rate on thim is

twinty-foive cints." He paused long enough to let one of the boys put an empty basket in the place of the one had had just filled There were only a few guinea pigs left. As he noted their limited number his natural habit of looking on the bright side returned.

"Well, anyhow," he said cheerfully 'tis not so bad as ut might be. What if thim dago pigs had been elephants!

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(Chicago Record-Herald.)

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vor of an eight-hour day "Yes, lady," replied Li

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